

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SOFIA 01288 150641Z

ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3087

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INFO AMCONSUL MUNICH

UNCLAS SOFIA 1288

PASS USIA IEU, IBS/PE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, BU, US

SUBJECT: BULGARIAN PRESS COVERAGE OF ZHIVKOVA VISIT AND  
THRACIAN ART EXHIBIT

REF: SOFIA 1283

1. BULGARIAN PRESS IN RECENT DAYS HAS GIVEN EXTENSIVE  
PRESS COVERAGE TO OPENING DAYS OF EXHIBIT OF THRACIAN ART AT  
METROPOLITAN IN NEW YORK AND TO OFFICIAL VISIT TO US OF  
MME LYUDMILA ZHIVKOVA, CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE OF CULTURE,  
TO OPEN EXHIBIT AND TO MEET WITH AMERICAN OFFICIALS.

2. BULGARIAN COMMUNIST PARTY NEWSPAPER "RABOTNICHESKO  
DELO" (RD) OF JUNE 10 UNDER HEADLINE "EXCEPTIONAL INTEREST"  
REPORTED JUNE 8 OPENING AT METROPOLITAN OF EXHIBIT  
"THRACIAN TREASURES FROM BULGARIA". ARTICLE SUMMARIZED  
REMARKS OF METROPOLITAN TRUSTEE BOARD CHAIRMAN DOUGLAS  
DILLON AND GAVE FULL TEXT OF MME ZHIVKOVA'S REMARKS. IN  
THEM SHE CALLED THE THRACIAN EXHIBIT "AN ORIGINAL DOCUMENT  
OF THE GREAT CHARACTERISTIC FEATURES OF SOUTHEASTERN  
EUROPEAN CIVILIZATION DURING ANTIQUITY AND THE EARLY MIDDLE  
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PAGE 02 SOFIA 01288 150641Z

AGES." THRACIAN ART EXPRESSES "A NATIONAL CHARACTER OF  
CREATIVE STRIVING AND SEARCHING, DEVELOPED THROUGH THE  
CENTURIES IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD, NATURALLY WALLING IN  
THE OVERALL COMPLEX OF CULTURAL HERITAGE WHICH BULGARIA  
HAS THE RIGHT TO BE PROUD OF." IN CLOSING, CHAIRMAN  
ZHIVKOVA THANKED THE LEADERSHIP OF THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM,  
USG, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, AND AMERICAN ARTISTS AND SCHOLARS

WHO HAVE ACCEPTED THE THRACIAN EXHIBIT, THUS FURTHERING THE AIMS OF MUTUAL ACQUAINTANCE, INTELLECTUAL COMMUNICATION, PEACE, AND PROGRESS AMONG COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES. "RD" ARTICLE NOTED PRESENCE AT EXHIBIT OF NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS DIRECTOR NANCY HANKS AND DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE ARMITAGE.

3. ZEMEDEL'SKO ZNAME, PAPER OF BULGARIAN AGRARIAN PEOPLE'S UNION, CARRIED REPORT JUNE 11 BY BULGARIAN TELEGRAPH AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE ENCHO MITOV FROM NEW YORK ENTITLED "THE FAME OF THRACE SHINES IN THE METROPOLITAN," IN WHICH HE QUOTES NEW YORK TIMES JUNE 10 COVERAGE OF EXHIBIT AT SOME LENGTH.

4. "RD" ARTICLE OF JUNE 12 UNDER HEADING "GREAT INTEREST" CARRIED INTERVIEW WITH A VISITOR TO THE EXHIBIT FROM WICHITA, KANSAS AND STRESSED HIGH LEVEL OF INTEREST ON PART OF ORDINARY PEOPLE AS WELL AS SPECIALISTS IN FIELD OF ART.

5. MOST RECENT PIECE IS "RD" JUNE 14 PIECE REPORTING JUNE 13 ARRIVAL OF MME ZHIVKOVA IN WASHINGTON. ARTICLE, ENTITLED "OFFICIAL VISIT," STATES THAT AGREEMENT FOR SCIENTIFIC/TECHNICAL AND CULTURAL COOPERATION WILL BE SIGNED BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES DURING HER STAY IN WASHINGTON. ARTICLE ALSO STATES THAT MME ZHIVKOVA WILL BE MEETING WITH "PROMINENT GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC FIGURES," AND MENTIONS SPECIFICALLY HER MEETINGS WITH NANCY HANKS AND USIA DIRECTOR REINHARDT.

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PAGE 03      SOFIA 01288 150641Z

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## Message Attributes

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